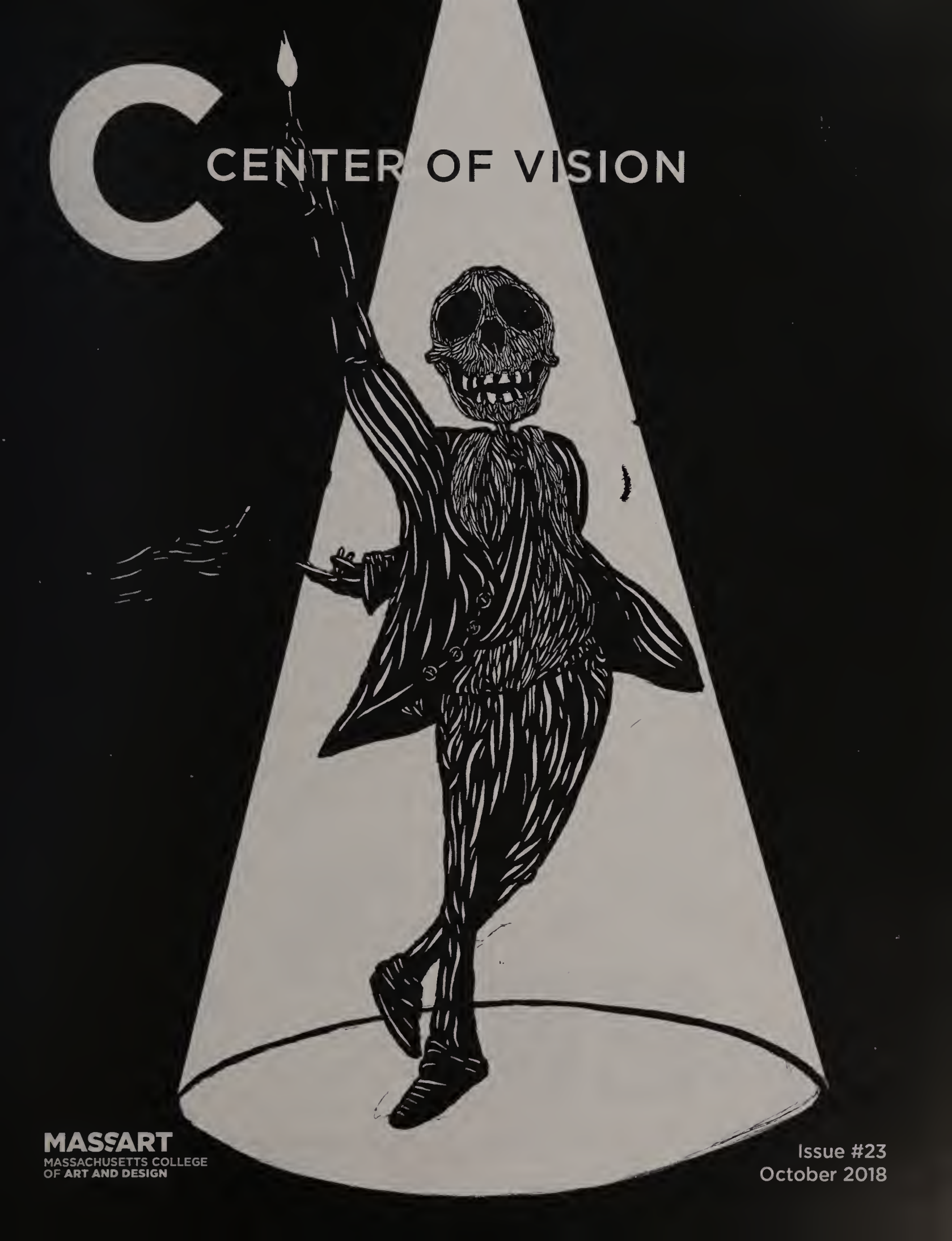
CENTER OF VISION



MASS ART
MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE
OF ART AND DESIGN

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Center of Vision

MassArt Student Publication since 1903

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Director's Note

First off, I want to thank all of the students that helped make this issue possible. We have a great team of willing and creative individuals who make time for this club on top of going to school. This is not an easy task, especially around mid-terms and finals. Although we were not always called Center of Vision, our publication started with students in 1903; and I'm thankful to all of them and the faculty for making the magazine what it is today. Having the opportunity to continue this club and be a part of MassArt's history is an honor. Also, we wouldn't be able to publish our magazine without the support of MassArt's Student Government Association. Special thanks to Laura Flynn for advising us and making the transition to the new year smooth. Our previous Faculty Advisor Maura Smyth was an integral part of Center of Vision's success and we wish her nothing but the best in her future as a professor and as a mother. Like the universe, we are always expanding and have added four additional pages to this and future issues.

And as always if you want to join our team send us an e-mail at snews@massart.edu or contact us via Instagram or Facebook.

Sincerely,

Adam Bertrand

Creative Director

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

FRONT AND BACK COVER DESIGN

"The Static" David Lemos, Foundation '22 | "Fern" Alley Gamache, Foundation '22

MassArt's Favorite Candy

BY CENTER OF VISION

We conducted a survey of just MassArt students to determine what their favorite candy was. This survey consisted of 27 different types of candy and included a field where you could fill-in a candy if it wasn't on the list. A few notable entries that were typed in were vanilla flavored Tootsie rolls, Rolos, and gummy bears. The most popular candy was Kit Kat at 18.9%, then Reese's Cups at 13.2%, and finally Twix at 9.4%. The remaining candy options were all within 1% but Jolly Ranchers and Snickers just barely won fourth and fifth place on the list.

COF DRAG SHOW

BY AUSTIN ROBICHAUD

The COF Annual Drag Show was held in Tower Auditorium on Friday, October 12 and was a huge success thanks to the incredible work by Wentworth Alliance (WITA) and MassArt Queer Artists Collective (QAC). Each King and Queen stole our hearts, and in some cases, even stole some tip money. The show started off with the sequined covered host, Miranda Wrights, as she performed "Love So Soft". Filled with witty remarks and a fantastic sense of humor she had the audience nearly in tears. For a majority of the audience, this was their first time at a drag show so Miranda taught everyone what to expect and kicked off the rest of the show by introducing the next performer, Marilyn Malibu.

Marilyn performed "Toxic" by Britney Spears and sold the audience with her very on-point flight attendant outfit. Severity Stone opened up our eyes when she performed "Close Your Eyes" by Kim Petras. Severity was not afraid to interact with the audience which caused everyone to go wild. Fresh to the drag scene, one of MassArt's own drag kings, Oliver Fist, put the audience on an emotional roller coaster that had everyone LIVING. Oliver performed "Bet On It" from High School Musical 2 which had the audience screaming "Wildcats!" Eva Lasting took the stage next and performed "Read U Wrote U" from RuPaul's Drag Race was stunning with her drops and fan that made the song even more iconic.

Up next was a professional drag king, Jayden Jamison, who had the audience wishing it was raining men with his performance of "Twerking Thunder" by Crum Hall. Gina Novia shocked the audience with her performance of "Electricity" by Dua Lipa. After an electric performance, Terry Fried, a drag king, came onto the stage and whipped the audience into shape when he performed "I'll Make A Man Out Of You" from Mulan. Neon Calypso had the audience seeing stars when she made a dramatic entrance from the back. Neon Calypso is a professional drag queen and gave the audience a performance of a Dua Lipa Mix that they would never forget.

Finally, Qya Cristál sang live vocals of "Salute" by Little Mix, followed by a wardrobe change. When Qya came back out, she was dripping in diamonds and sang and an amazing rendition of "I Know Where I've Been" from the musical Hairspray. Each performer was stunning and did an amazing job. It's not easy to get up in front of a large audience and perform your heart out. **C**

“If You Can’t Love Yourself How In The Hell Are You Gonna Love Somebody Else?
-RuPaul Charles

MIT's Great Glass Pumpkin Patch

BY GRACE CUSHNER

The first thing I noticed was the large tent outside of the Kresge Oval but I only noticed the pumpkins as I got closer. All of the pumpkins were organized by artist and each artist arranged their pumpkins in a different way. Some were evenly spaced out over the grass and some were huddled close together on top of a bale of hay. When I picked up the first pumpkin that caught my eye, I admired the small details within the shape of the body and stem and of course the vibrant colors. After seeing something we like, the second instinct is to look at the price, which shocked me. These glass pumpkins were more expensive than I thought. Most were between $70 and $250, and that's not counting some of the larger ones or the more colorful ones. There was one pumpkin that was over $350. There were only one or two left that were less than $70. The glass pumpkin sale was a fundraiser for the glass blowing facility and program but as a student, these were very much outside of my price range.

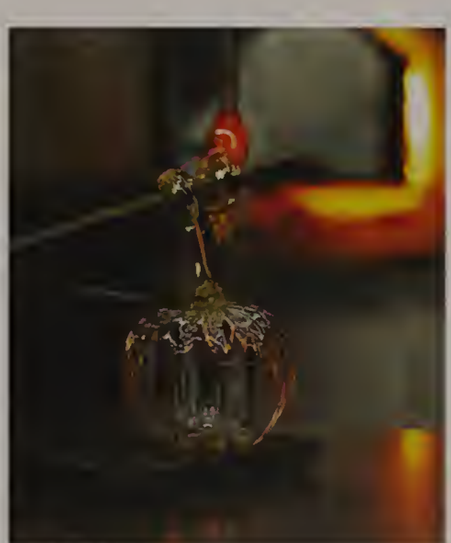
We came across a woman that was holding an entire box of glass pumpkins. When we asked her about them she said, "I am here for the pumpkin sale, I am glad the weather was so nice today. I am buying these pumpkins for myself. I should have brought more money but I am glad that this is a fundraiser for the program. I was debating whether I should buy one big beautiful piece or many small and simple ones."

I agreed with her, but I was debating if I could even afford one pumpkin. This woman went home with a full box of handmade glass pumpkins and I walked away empty handed. They were amazing to look at, I just wish they were more affordable pumpkins. Maybe they did have a lot of affordable pumpkins but they sold out earlier in the day. It would be nice to take one home instead of just looking. C

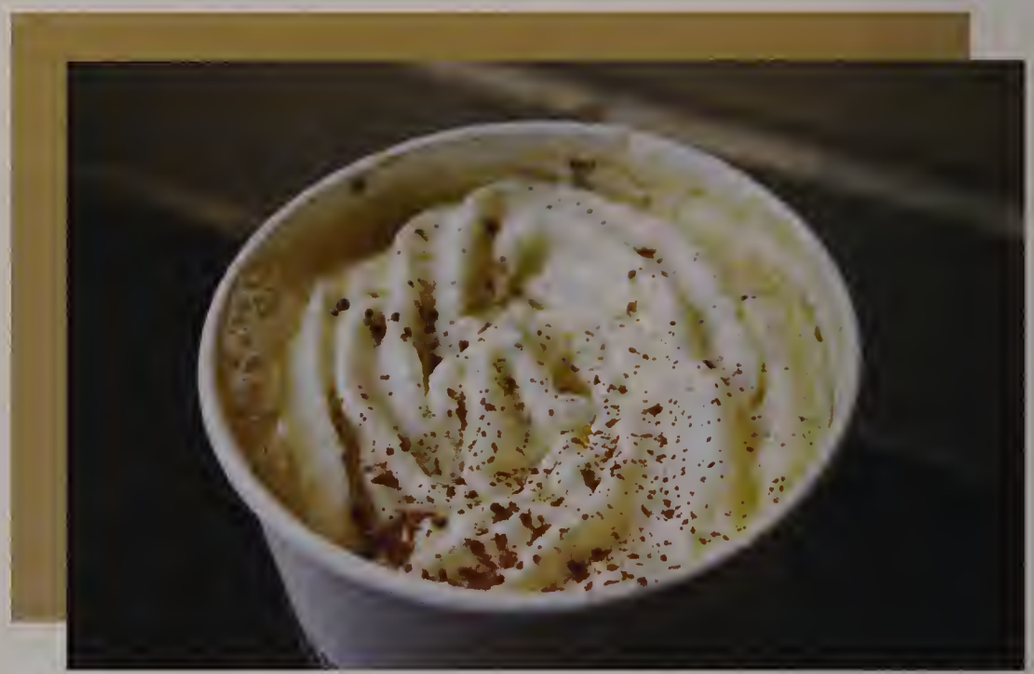
How It's Made:
Glass Pumpkins

BY ADAM BERTRAND

Although the pumpkin is unique in its final form, it begins as a small gob of glass. This gob is gathered from the furnace using a steel blowpipe which has been pre-heated in a gas oven called the pipe warmer. As the glassworker collects the glass and moves it toward the marver they must continuously rotate the pipe. At the marver, the glass is shaped to maintain a thicker amount of glass on the bottom. Wooden blocks are also used on the bench to maintain a round shape. Once the shape and bubble are established it'll be heated up and placed into a mold. This mold creates the outside texture of the pumpkin. Using long tongs called jacks the glassworker will pinch the glass while someone else blows air into the pipe. The next step is to gather a small cylindrical amount of glass for the stem. This stem is also placed into a mold for texture. Timing has to be perfect attaching and twirling the stem because of how fast glass cools. Once the piece is complete it is quickly placed in an annealer which slowly cools glass from a high temperature. Without the annealer, glass can explode due to internal stress.



Thanks to Cam and Nikki for making the pumpkin and letting me document their process. If you want to contact them their Instagram accounts are @camsglass and @nikkitsamisglass. **C**



Pumpkin Spice & Everything Nice

BY CARLEY BYERS

Admit it. You can't help but enjoy the changing leaves, colder days, and of course (the guilty pleasure for some) a Starbucks Pumpkin Spice Latte. A fall staple at this point, the PSL may have just started a trend that won't die.

On August 28th, Starbucks brought back one of its most championed drinks. Despite it's drop being before fall had even begun the PLS was already selling out. Some called it "basic" or overrated but it still stands as the top selling seasonal beverage of all time.

Back in 2003, a Starbucks team was challenged with making seasonal beverages for the company. The eggnog latte and peppermint mocha had been successful during the winter months so they turned their attention to fall. In a small room called the "Liquid Lab" at their headquarters in Seattle, team members experimented with pumpkin, cinnamon, and nutmeg until the PSL was born.

They considered naming the drink the Fall Harvest Latte but finally settled on Pumpkin Spice because it had a better ring to it. Many food trends die out, take coconut milk in coffee, for example, however this festive beverage is hanging on! Starbucks has sold almost 350 million since it's first release in 2003 and the #PSL gets 3,000 tweets a day during fall. Do we have this latte to thank for the pumpkin spice items surrounding us every year from September to November? Maybe. But do we mind? Not one bit.

WHAT'S NICE ABOUT PUMPKIN SPICE?

I was at my local Trader Joe's when I noticed every time I looked at a shelf something pumpkin popped out at me. Shamelessly, I stocked up on fall goodies so I could let you in on the best and worst of all things pumpkin.

Let's start out with the pumpkin soup. It's a super easy fall fix because the only cooking directions are: warm up in a bowl. That being said, it's pretty plain. Overall, it has a sweet taste with a small kick of cinnamon. To take it to the next level toast some of the sliced french brioche bread and dunk it... you'll thank me later.

Next, I tried the Trader Joe's honey roasted ravioli. It's a great vegetarian option and the pasta comes in fun orange and yellow colors. Again, the prep is super easy. Just bring a pot of water to boil, salt it, and cook those guys for 2 minutes! To dress it up you could coat it in olive oil or sprinkle cheese on top. I was pleasantly surprised by how yummy these were. I would definitely recommend for dinner on a cold fall night.

Finally, my favorite of the three: the pumpkin cinnamon rolls. I know, it sounds a little weird but trust me. A package bakes 5 so you can always give some to friends (they will love you for it). It comes with pumpkin spice frosting but I used the Trader Joe's pumpkin cream cheese spread instead. It worked really well and gave the rolls a sweet yet savory taste.

HARVEST IN THE HUB

If you are looking to treat yourself to some seasonal bites here's just a few places serving up pumpkin around the city.

A hidden gem for trying a variety of things is the Boston Public Market. I tried the pumpkin spice macaroon from Finesse Pastries, decorated like a jack-o-lantern, it was seasonal and fun. It was pretty big for a macaroon so I would suggest sharing! The macaroon part was a perfect chewy texture while the frosting in the middle was a bit rich. Yummy but almost overly decadent.

Since this article is pumpkin spice and everything nice I figured I would briefly cover another fall favorite: apple cider donuts. At BPM, they have a vendor called Red Apple Farm. They make everything apple from cider to loaves. Their donuts are so soft with a perfect cinnamon sugar coating. If you warm them up in the microwave and pair it with milk you can't go wrong.

RECIPE

MAKES 20 TO 24 CUPCAKES

Pumpkin Filled Chocolate Cupcakes

1 *box of chocolate cupcake mix*
4 *ounces of cream cheese, softened*
1 *cup canned pumpkin*
1 *cup confectioners' sugar*
8 *(1 ounce) squares of semi- sweet chocolate*
3/4 *cup of heavy whipping cream*

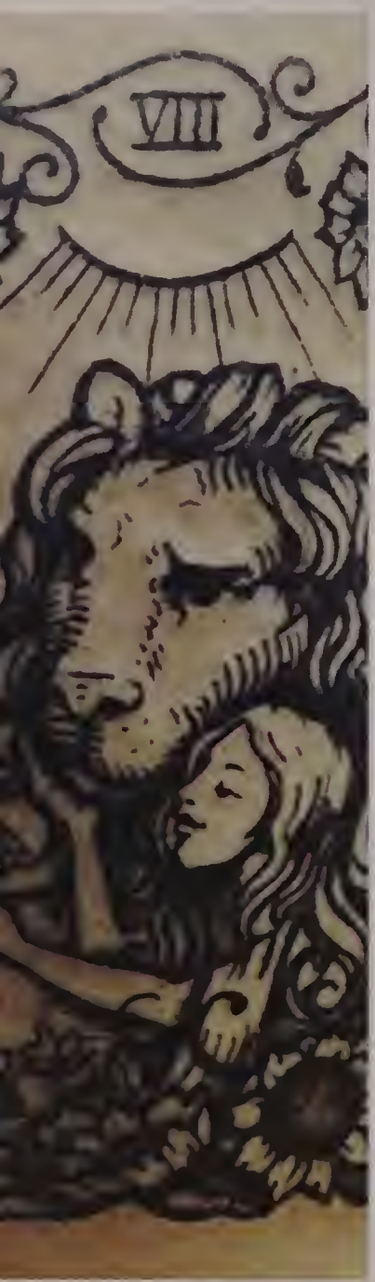
Prepare cake mix according to the directions on the box. Take the cupcakes out of the pan and remove cupcake foils (if used). Allow them to cool completely.

Mix cream cheese until smooth. Add the confectioners' sugar and pumpkin then combine. Cut each cupcake in half and spread a tablespoon of the mixture on one side. Reattach the cupcake together so the filling is in the middle.

In a small bowl, combine chocolate and cream. Microwave on high, in 30-second intervals, stirring between each, until the chocolate is melted. Then dip the top of the cupcake in the mixture. Add a dusting of confectioners sugar and serve. Stores up to two days. **C**

Ask An Alumni: Michelle Dugan

BY LISA LAM



Lisa: How did you become a tattoo artist?

Michelle: I actually got conned! Let this be a warning to anyone looking to get into this industry. Apprenticeships are pretty damn hard to come by, and some people are willing to exploit the ambition/naivete of a beginner. When I was 17, I went with my friend to keep him company on a long session, brought my sketchbook, and the tattooer made a big deal about how great my skills were. "You could be great at this. With your skill and my guidance, this will be perfect, you'll never have to worry about money or a career." He eventually started blackmailing me for money. He said if I didn't give him x amount, he'd lock me out of the shop. Michelle finally smartened up and told him she wouldn't give him any more money. He then spread a rumor that she had hepatitis. Fortunately, no one believed him, but she needed a break and decided to go to MassArt.

Lisa: Describe your first time tattooing.

Michelle: The first tattoo I ever did was on myself. A pretty large Jane Doe (Converge) face on my calf. I was using the wrong kind of machine, the wrong kind of needle, and honestly, it's still one of my favorites.

Lisa: What class or experience at MassArt made the most impact towards your tattoo career?

Michelle: I struggled in the fine arts department. Most of my instructors were conceptual and abstract, and we had a lot of trouble connecting. My junior year I took History of Printmaking and that did it. I became enamored with renaissance printmaking. It changed my process, my intentions, my style, and weighed heavily on the aesthetic that I would bring to my tattoo career.

Lisa: What is your favorite tattoo/client story?

Michelle: I like when people don't take themselves too seriously. I had a friend hit me up asking for "a buffalo chicken wing police officer pulling over a slice of pepperoni pizza." No backstory, no explanation. I think more tattoos should be that way.

Lisa: What advice would you give to students wanting to go into this field?

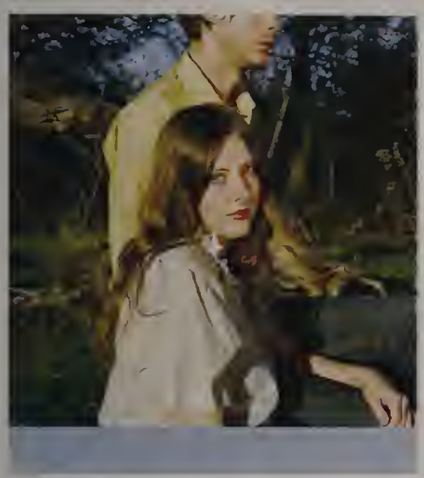
Michelle: Get ready for a lot of rejection, pressure, insulting, hazing, and stress. This industry is not fun to get into. Once you get there, TAKE CARE OF YOUR BODY. Your back, your hands, your neck, all of it will be destroyed if you're not taking proper care of yourself.

> "Your back, your hands, your neck, all of it will be destroyed if you're **not taking proper care of yourself."**

Lisa: Michelle is currently on recovery from tendon injuries caused by tattooing. She is currently working on paintings and freelance work but looks forward to jumping back in. **C**

FIRST FLOWER MOLLY BURCH

BY MEGAN DITULLIO



Molly Burch is a singer/songwriter from LA. Only one year after her debut, Burch released her Sophomore album First Flower this October. She is heavily influenced by old Hollywood and jazz performance. Burch knew from a young age that she loved to sing but found it difficult to perform because of her anxiety. Slowly she began to overcome her anxiety with high school plays and choir. First Flower showcases her vintage aesthetic and unique voice. It's the kind of album you want to listen to on a quiet Sunday morning, but it will surely transport you to a hazy jazz club. The lyrics of this album are emotive and introspective. My personal favorite is "Nothing to Say". Her performance on this song really amplifies the message of betrayal. The close of the album "Every Little Thing" is very raw. I felt that most of the music sugar-coated the lyrics in a good way, but this one is hard-hitting and vulnerable. **C**

VI YOU ME AT SIX

BY MEGAN DITULLIO

Surprisingly, First Flower and You Me At Six's new album VI both identify as part of the Alternative genre but couldn't sound more different. You Me At Six have been active for almost fifteen years and impressively just released VI as their sixth studio album. Like a well-written essay, they open with a strong hook with the powerful rock anthem "Fast Forward". The next couple of songs after this did not feel very different from what they have done in the past in my opinion. I thought these songs were done well, however, at this point, I'm hoping to hear something a little different and exciting. I felt revived by the time I got to "IOU" which included inventive guitar riffs and was not predictable. As the album progresses they seem to get more experimental and show a want to take risks. It feels fitting that their final song is about being afraid of losing someone you love. The music composed for this song sounds new and reflective of the message of the song. I enjoyed the setlist of the album because it felt familiar and comfortable in the beginning but by the end, you realize how much risk was taken and how rewarding that can be. It is exploratory, inventive, scary, and exciting and I'm excited to see what they make next. **C**

Venom

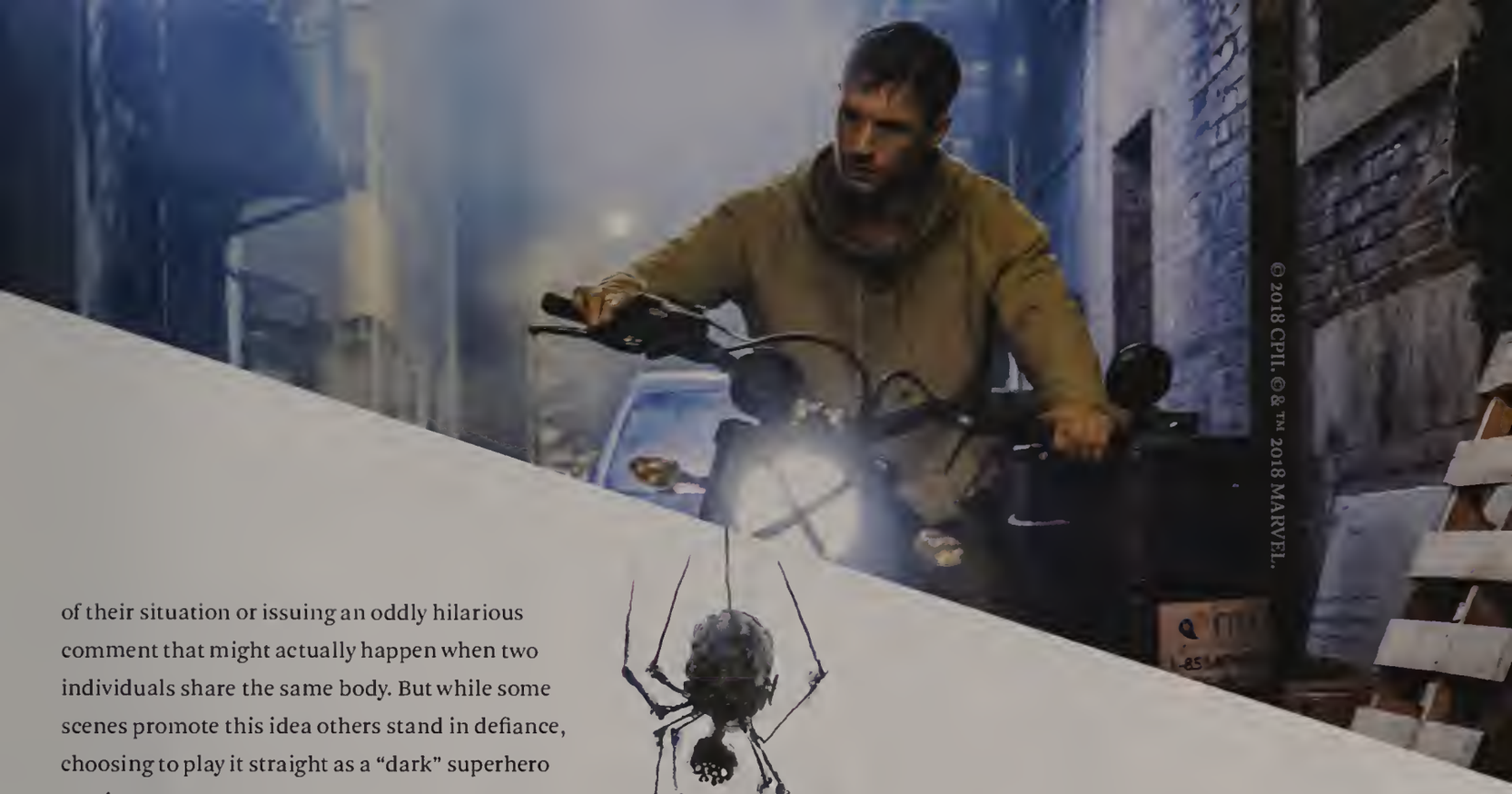
BY JARYD MASSARO

In the past decade, Sony has struggled to find room in the expansive universes brought by both the DC and Marvel powerhouses. Admitting defeat and lending Spider-Man to the MCU(Marvel Cinematic Universe), Sony was left with a roster of characters from the Spider-Man universe without the web-slinger himself. In an attempt to bring back their relevance to comic book movies, Sony went with the anti-hero and popular nemesis to Spider-Man; Venom.

While it remains to be seen whether or not Venom will be financially successful enough to warrant the universe they have planned, it is clear Sony has learned little from their Marvel partner, presenting us with a movie that could easily be from the early thousands era of superhero movies ignoring much of the progress the genre has made. Venom is a tonally messy film that despite its poor storyline ultimately has enough cleverly executed moments to make it worth a watch.

Venom thrives when the film chooses to focus on the relationship between Eddie Brock and the titular symbiote, but the real issue lies with getting to these moments. The entire first act drags as it hits each predictable and clichéd plot point we've seen in so many superhero movies preceding it. The antagonist is lackluster and seems to portray the embodiment of a generic-biotech villain.

Venom could have been to DC what Deadpool is to Marvel. Like Deadpool plays with tropes of the more lighthearted end of the genre, Venom could have mocked the darker and grittier style using the character as a literal internal commentary on themselves. In some scenes this actually happens, with either Brock or Venom voicing the absurdity



of their situation or issuing an oddly hilarious comment that might actually happen when two individuals share the same body. But while some scenes promote this idea others stand in defiance, choosing to play it straight as a "dark" superhero movie.

Visually, this movie is actually pretty consistently dark matching the tone they were aiming for but not necessarily maintaining. In fact, there are several instances where the action is so dimly lit it's hard to tell what is going on. The quick action-movie cuts also don't help to add to this feeling of disorientation, leaving the viewer to truly wonder what they are even watching. Both of these lead to an ultimately hard-to-follow climax in which one black alien fights another slightly less black alien dodging in and out of lights - at night. In this scene, it is even hard to simply differentiate the two characters because of their already mirroring resemblance.

The CGI of Venom and his adversary is not bad, nor is it anything spectacular. There aren't any real visually stunning shots in the whole movie, but nothing is truly poorly composed or rendered either. The camera and effects do their job without doing anything over-the-top either.

One place the special effects may have been tested is with the gore which does not appear in this PG-13 film. The carnivorous beast that is Venom simply begs to push beyond the confinements of its moderate rating and delve into the grotesque

...Tom Hardy was able to **imbue Venom with a sense of real threat** and power that comes as a direct result of his voice acting.

world that it could be. Again, this flies in the face of the advancements the comic book genre has made, ignoring huge R-rated successes such as Deadpool and Logan in order to theoretically reach a larger audience. From a storytelling standpoint, it makes far more sense to have your anti-hero character which is aiming to be dark and literally eats people come with that R-rated blood, guts, and language.

Even without the R-rating, actor Tom Hardy was able to imbue Venom with a sense of real threat and power that comes as a direct result of his voice acting. Hardy also played Brock and pretty expertly instilled him with a nervous weak fervor from his wavering voice and shaky mannerisms which greatly clashes with Venom's. It is this dynamic that provides the most intrigue in the film and it is clear Hardy threw himself into these characters.

Hardy was fun to watch on his own in this film and it is largely thanks to him that the movie has these redeemable moments which occur between his two characters. Venom would have worked much better as a kind of dark buddy comedy instead of a mostly serious superhero origin movie, but regardless works decently as an installment into the plethora of movies it goes up against in its genre. **C**

WELCOME TO INKTOBER

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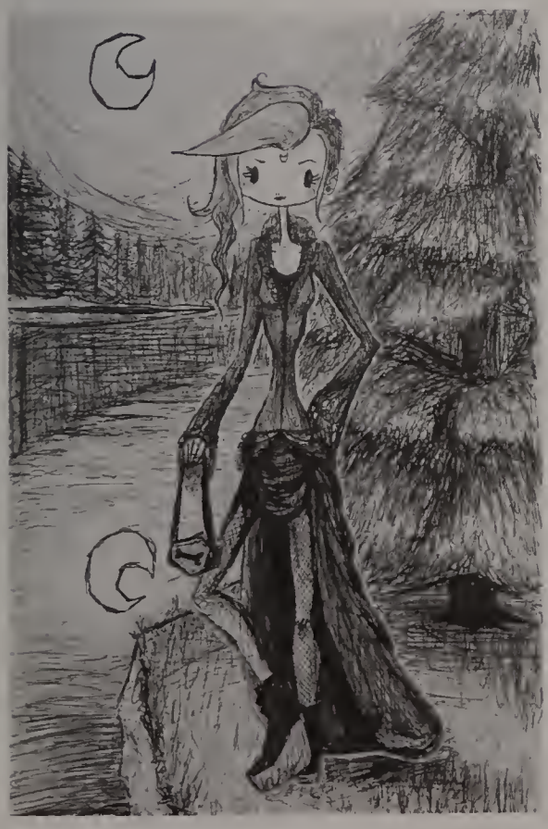

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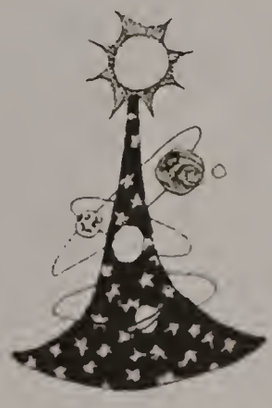

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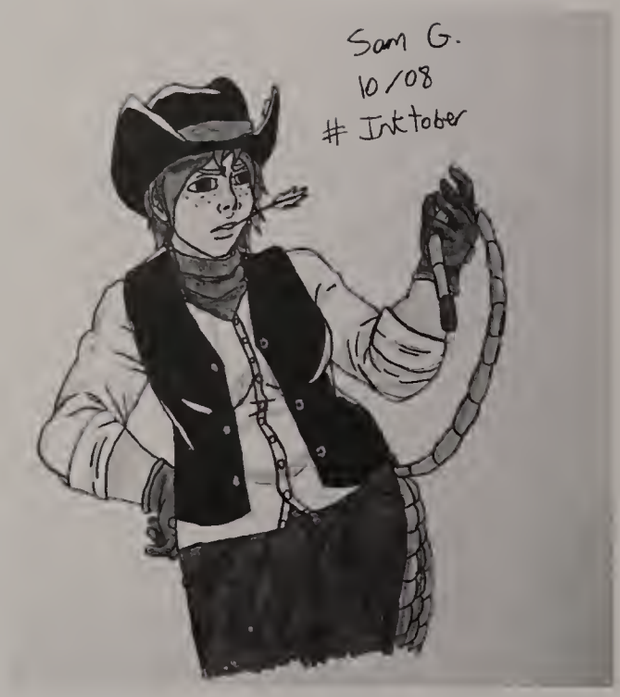

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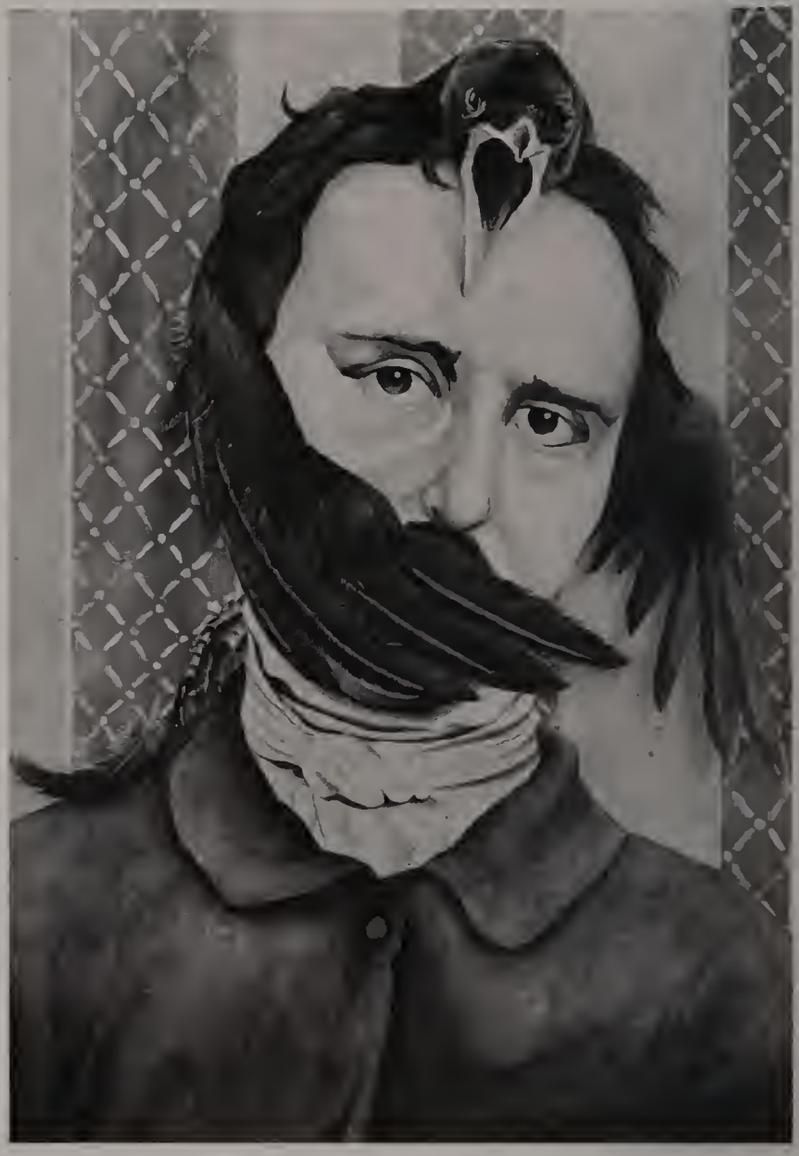

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7,8 Madelyn Sweet
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"Star hat"
Illustration '19
9 Samantha George
"Cowgirl"
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